

How many issues of DIPLOMACY WORLD NEWS
before the transfer of DW editorship?

FEBRUARY 25, 1990

ONE HUNDRED

20 PAGES

60c

A SHARP
MIND

...is a sure cure for
all Diplomatic ills

AND A STRAIGHT
KNIFE

Break out the champagne! Is it all there? Didn't drink any on New Year's Eve or something? OK, now put it back on ice (you didn't uncork the stuff, did you?) and save it for the 10th Anniversary Issue coming most likely in July (there may be a delay before that issue as I plan to take my computer in for a tune-up and memory upgrade). Now crack open some bottles of beer and raise 'em in celebration of this issue 100 of *Life of Monty* - er, uh, *A Sharp Mind And A Straight Knife*, from Don Del Grande, 142 Eliseo Drive, Greenbrae, CA 94904-1339, USA, phone (1)(415)461-2692, but try to make it between 5 PM and 11 PM Pacific time, and if you must call collect, have a good excuse. And now for something completely the same (OOPS, how did that get in there? Old habits die hard):

MONTY'S NEWS AND COMMENT is brought to you by
UNITED GERMANY DEMOLITION COMPANY of Berlin

Just remember that a united Germany will, more than likely, use West Germany's anthem - *Deutschland Uber Alles*. Already, you can hear the cries of *Ein Reich, Ein Volk, Ein Fuehrer!* (Did I spell that correctly?)

And now for another of those great traditions - turn the page . . .

MONTY'S NEWS AND COMMENT presents the 1990 ACADEMY AWARD PREDICTIONS

BEST PICTURE: *Batman*. I know it wasn't nominated - but it won the "real" Best Picture award - *most money at the box office*. As for the Oscar, even a nominated *Batman* would have been no match for *Born on the Fourth of July*.

BEST ACTOR: Tough one. Personally, I like Kenneth Branagh in *Henry V*, but I think it'll go to Tom Cruise.

BEST ACTRESS: Jessica Tandy (*Driving Miss Daisy*). Longshot: Pauline Collins (*Shirley Valentine*), who won a Tony (and an Olivier award - London's version of the Tony) for the same role on stage, but that was literally a one-woman show (she even played her husband, from what I've heard).

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR: Denzel Washington (*Glory*), mainly because (a) he's good, and (b) *Glory* didn't get nominated for anything better. (Plus, the fact that he's black can't hurt...)

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS: Julia Roberts, mainly because they have to give something to *Steel Magnolias*.

BEST DIRECTOR: Oliver Stone (*Born on the Fourth of July*).

OTHERS OF NOTE: Best Original Screenplay will go to Woody Allen for *Crimes and Misdemeanors* unless he's a serious contender for Best Director, in which case Spike Lee gets it for *Do the Right Thing*. Best Foreign Language Film usually, but not always, translates as "most talked-about foreign film" (although a special committee, not the entire Academy, decides this one); this year, it's Canada's "Jesus du Montreal". The tough one is Best Original Song - the Academy tends to go for non-rock love songs, but they also go for popular songs, which points to "Under the Sea" from *The Little Mermaid* - another one for the Disney gang. (Disney's other best original songs: "When You Wish Upon a Star" from *Pinocchio*, "Zip-A-Dee-Do-Do-Dah" from *Song of the South*, and "Chim Chim Cheree" from *Mary Poppins*.)

MARCO POLL: Pete Gaughan, Box 7006, Corte Madera, CA 94925-7006, wants your choices for Best 'Zine, Subzine, and GM. List up to your five favorites in each category (numbered from 1 to 5) and send them in to Pete by April 16.

RUSTY BOLTS AWARDS - based on awards of the same name in Britain. Send your votes in to Tom Nash, 5512 Pilgrim Road, Baltimore, MD 21214, by March 15. *You can split each vote into fractions and vote for more than one entry per category (for example, 3/4 for "a" and 1/4 for "b").*

The "Let's Put Tri & Ven Right Next To Each Other, I Mean What Harm Can That Do To Those Countries" It Seemed Like A Good Idea At The Time award: DIPCON Scoring System; *Been There, Done That* becoming a 'zine; Michael Hopcroft publishing "while in the poor house"

The Blunt Instruments Memorial award for most eagerly awaited fold: OPERABLE; Passchendaele; Known Game Openings; Vertigo; Kaissa; Protocol; Electronic Protocol; The Megadipomat

The Patience Of Job award for most most unreasonably delayed 'zine: Fiat Bellum; Dark Mirror; Perelandra; The Scribblerist; Vertigo; Praxis

The Fred Davis - Bruce Geryk Memorial Hobby Odd Couple award for the most bizzare hobby collaboration: Hopcroft & Wilson (KGO ZD); Hopcroft & Carrier (KGO ZD mark II); Hood & Nash (WORLD DIP CON); John Caruso & Berch (agreeing on 6 of 10 Scruples questions in *Northern Flame*); Hood & Peery (*Diplomacy World*)

The MNC Dead Horse Memorial award for most overdone/boring hobby topic: MNCs; the Runestone Poll; Canadian nationalism and separate BNs; PBEMers claiming PBMers don't give them any respect; the DIPCON scoring system; Proxy voting for DIPCON; computers; BNC funds

The William Whyte award for most truly distinctive hobby personality: Jimmy Williams; Jim Diehl; Chris Carrier; Robert Sacks; Doug Acheson; Robert Acheson

The "Wil, hey, I'm a, hey, well, English major" Don Williams Memorial award for butchering the English language: David Hood's use of "Y'all"; Ed Wrobel's "And/Or"; Bill LaFosse for *Countermeasures*; Herb Barents in *Boast*; Eric "Yo" Brosius; *Kathy's Korner*.

Gunboat award for stupidest hobby craze: Tom Nash; music playlists; gunboat games; feuding; PBEM play

The Running Down to a Fold award for most depressing hobby concept: Tom Nash; megadiplomacy; Brad Wilson's Ideal Hobby; feuding as an art form; Chris Carrier continuing the KGO ZD

Mark Walsh Memorial Cannon Fodder award for most totally incompetent play of PBM/PBEM Dip: Jim Diehl; David Hood; Doug Acheson; Dan Gavrilovic; Martin Donnelly; Dave Anderson; Robert Cheek; Eric Klein

Flame Out Of The Year award: Mark Lilleleht; Audrey Jaxon; Michael Hopcroft; Simon Billenness; Bruce Linsey; Doug Acheson; Don Williams

Who, HIM Again? award for letter writer you are most tired of: Marc Hanna; Mark Nelson; Mark Berch; Francois Cuerrier; Mark Lew; Robert Sacks; David Ome; Mickey Preston

Upstart Of The Year award: *Upstart*; Tom Nash; Jeff McKee; Jason Bergmann; Eric Brosius; Glenn Overby

THE LIFERS: Send these votes into me by June 1. You can vote for as many or as few (even none) persons / 'zines / whatever in each category. The categories are: Hobby Genius; Best 'Zine/Subzine for Hobby News; 'Zine/Subzine with the Best Letter Column; Biggest Hobby Personality; Best Con; True Hobby Masters Society. (In the last category, votes for the four existing members - Kathy Caruso, Bruce Linsey, Melinda Ann Holley, and Larry Peery - will not be counted; if you don't want anybody added to this list, specifically put "NONE" as your vote.)

DIP WARZ

"Let's add a new category by ORDER of the EMPEROR - the *Linoleum Falcon* Memorial award for most exasperating rebels."

One of the newer officers aboard the EMPEROR's flagship who doesn't know any better decides to make a comment: "How can it be a memorial award? Their ship still exists." That sound you may have heard between "award" and "their" was a shipload of lower officers taking cover, just WAITING for that MOMENT when the EMPEROR sends horrible electric DEATH towards what is SOON to be the ASHES of a FORMER lower officer.

Somebody else can be heard to whisper "What's he waiting for?" just before getting a personal introduction to said electric death.

"I'm waiting for this officer to explain his actions. Well?"

"No excuses, Your Supreme Everythingness."

"I think I'll let this one live - at least he knows not to make excuses and how to address superior officers. (low-intensity zot, but still plenty to reduce the officer to ashes, not to mention the ashes to ashes) Think again! There's no room in this empire for correcting my mistakes....and since nobody mentioned that I DON'T MAKE MISTAKES, the entire crew is required to memorize my latest speech! And for not knowing that it is already mandatory to memorize ALL of my speeches, all desserts tonight will be limited to mere QUADRUPLE-smooth whipped cream!"

**TOP KNIFE #33 hereby announces the
INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY
TOURNAMENT RATINGS
1989 WORLD TOURNAMENT
DIPLOMACY CHAMPION**



What a surprise - this is the third time that the Manorcon winner turned up at the top of the IDTR table, although this year was a lot closer than in the past, since the weight on tournament size was reduced from the first two years. Obviously, it just wasn't enough; that's one of the reasons why the new "100 points to the winner" system is in effect. (Had the 1990 system been used in 1989, ORIGINS winner Steve Cooley would have finished first, thanks to his high finish at DIPCON.)

The complete 1989 final ratings are not available yet, as I don't have the complete results; however, Larry Peery's report on MIDCON in the latest *Diplomacy World* gave me enough information to determine that no one could pass Paul's 38-point total for his MANORCON win.

As is the custom, Paul's name will be engraved on the IDTR Championship Cup (still nameless) - which, by the way, will be on display at WORLD DIP CON II if I can remember to pack it.



There's a small problem with the new scoring system that needs to be changed. (Don't panic - this is NOT going to be a "change the system every month" thing. This is it for all of 1990.) The general idea - top 10 percent score points, and the winner always gets 100 - remains, but did you notice that, for example, third place in a 40-person tournament is worth 17 more points than in a 39-person tournament? There's too much of a jump using "divide by 10". Also, the "30-person minimum" is a little arbitrary; awarding no points in a 29-person event is also too much of a jump.

The following changes are to be made to the 1990 IDTR Rules and Regulations:

Rule 3(c) should read "had fewer than 21 participants".

Rule 5(b) should read "the total number of games played". (The number of rounds is not necessary.)

Rule 5(c) should read "the top ten percent of the finishers, rounded up, and with any ties specified. Thus, for example, in a tournament with 88 participants, list the top nine finishers."

The important one - replace Rule 6 (a) and (b) with:

(a) The winner of the tournament receives 100 points, minus 10 for each person below 30 in the tournament. For example, the winner of a tournament with 28 persons receives 80 points.

(b) Second and subsequent places score a fraction of what the winner receives. In a tournament with n participants, second place scores $(n-10)/n$ of the winner's points, third place scores $(n-20)/n$, fourth places scores $(n-30)/n$, and so on. Round all fractions down. No one receives fewer than zero points.

For example, in a tournament with 44 persons, first place is worth 100; second is worth $34/44 \times 100 = 77.27$, rounded down to 77; third is worth $24/44 \times 100 = 54.55$, rounded down to 54; fourth is worth $14/44 \times 100 = 31.82$, rounded down to 31; fifth is worth $4/44 \times 100 = 9.09$, rounded down to 9; sixth and below score zero.

Speaking of 1990 ratings, the 1990 AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMACY CHAMPIONSHIP was held January 26-28 (Australia Day weekend) at CANCON in Canberra. Andrew England ran the Diplomacy event, which saw 63 participants each play three rounds, with the Austdip system (Revised Stab Mk II) used to determine the winner.

AUSTDIP SYSTEM: Each person's score for a game is:

$$\left(\frac{Y(2) + Y(3) + Y(4) + \dots + Y(X)}{X - 1} + \text{Victory Points} \right) / 2$$

Each season *beginning with 1902* ($Y(2)$), the person with the most SCs receives 7 "year points" for that year, second-highest receives 6, and so on down to 1 for the fewest SCs. (Average the scores for ties - except that a player automatically receives 1 year point in each year after elimination.) Note that if a game goes past 1917, all seasons after 1916 are ignored except for the final season.

Victory points: 13 for a win, 5 divided among the losing survivors

in a won game (proportional to SCs), and 18 points divided among the players involved in a draw (again, proportional to SCs). In a three-round tournament such as this one, the average game score (sum of three game scores divided by three) determines the final results.

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. (100) Adrian Fegan | 11. Neil Kitchen |
| 2. (84) Luke Clutterbuck | 12. Brent Chatterton |
| 3. (68) Marion Ashworth | 13. Matthew Gibson |
| 4. (52) Robert Wessels | 14. Craig Sedgwick |
| 5. (36) Harry Kolotas | 15. Neil Ashworth |
| 6. (20) Jonathan Heaney | 16. Brett Scovell |
| 7. (4) Carl Chang | 17. Mark Lycette |
| 8. James Manvao | 18. Jim Venn |
| 9. John Cain | 19. Terry Tolhurst |
| 10. Clive Lane | 20. Richard Biddle |

Numbers in parentheses indicate IDTR points

AWARDS

BEST AUSTRIA - Luke Clutterbuck

BEST ENGLAND - James Manvao

BEST FRANCE - Mark Turnbull

BEST GERMANY - Brent Chatterton

BEST ITALY - Ken Sproat

BEST RUSSIA - Adrian Fegan

BEST TURKEY - Frank Meerback

BEST PLAYER UNDER 19 - Jonathan Heaney

PLAYER'S CHOICE - Jim Venn

The Player's Choice award is decided by the players, who cast a vote after each of their games for the best player in their game. The person with the most votes over the three games receives the award.

NEXT TOURNAMENT - VICTORIAN DIPLOMACY CHAMPIONSHIP will be in Melbourne, April 13-16, as part of CONQUEST 90. Contact John Cain, 76 Banool Road, Balwyn 3103, or George Smirnow, 15 Aubery Street, Vermont, 3133 (both in Australia). for details.

Other Australian tournaments:

NEW SOUTH WALES CHAMPIONSHIP (June 9-11) - Luke Clutterbuck, 16/353A Old South Head Road, Bondi Beach, NSW 2026

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN OPEN (October 6-8) - James Vickers, 32 Essex Street South, Goodwood, S.A. 5034

THE 10-YEAR CONTEST - ROUND 2

RULES CHANGE: In order to give latecomers a chance, while still giving some incentive for those of you who are competing from the beginning, I won't be giving any of the answers until after the end of the contest - this December. Instead, answers for any set of questions will be accepted up to the deadline for the final set - however, when determining the final placings, a person's final score will be reduced by one for each set of answers mailed in after its deadline (except for late sets without any correct answers). This will not affect the prizes based on number of correct answers, however.

In other words, if you send in your Round 2 answers after the deadline, and you got six correct, it will be scored as if you only got five correct. However, if you happen to qualify for the "five cents credit per correct answer", you will be given 30 cents credit (instead of 25) for your Round 2 answers.

QUESTION SET 2 - SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE

1. How many seasons has Don Pardo *not* been the announcer?
2. Who was the only "Not Ready For Prime Time Player" to appear in only one show (the first one)?
3. Name the only person born outside of North America to be a member of the regular cast.
4. You'll notice that I didn't say "Not Ready For Prime Time Players" in question 3. That's because they weren't referred by that title after some person(s) left the cast - which one(s)?
5. Who "complained" because she (hint hint) was the only one not to say "Live from New York, it's Saturday Night" in the first season after Chevy Chase left?
6. What do the "pairs" of Al Franken & Tom Davis and John Candy & Eugene Levy have in common concerning *SNL* that no other people (much less pairs) share?
7. Name the only person to be a member of the cast, leave, and return to the cast.

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE

8. Who was the only black woman ever to be a member of the cast?

9. Who is the only cast member to win an Emmy for acting?

10. A number of people have been audibly censored while appearing - occasionally just on the "west coast" (three-hour delayed) version. Who is the only person to be *visually* censored on a live show?

DEADLINE FOR ROUND 2 ANSWERS: APRIL 2, 1990

★ ☆ ☼ ☆ ★ ★ ★ ☆ ★ ☆ ☼ ☆ ★ ★

1990 HOBBY AWARD NOMINATIONS

Ron Cameron, 7821 Bouma Circle, La Palma, CA 90623, has announced that nominations are now being accepted for the four major Diplomacy hobby awards:

DON MILLER MEMORIAL AWARD - for hobby service during 1989

ROD WALKER AWARD - for literary excellence during 1989; this award goes to a particular piece of writing (e.g. an article), and Ron requests that a copy of the item in question be included with your nomination

JOHN KONING MEMORIAL AWARD - for outstanding play of Diplomacy in any form during 1989

MELINDA ANN HOLLEY AWARD - for outstanding female participation in the hobby during 1989

When making your nomination(s), please include the reason for your nomination. (For the Walker award, a copy of the item being nominated is requested but not mandatory.)

In case more than five nominations are received for any category, a screening committee will reduce the nominations to five per category. Final ballots will be sent out on or after March 20, and the winners will be announced at WORLD DIP CON this June. Donations to cover expenses (each winner receives a permanent plaque as well as having their name put on the appropriate perpetual plaque) are welcome and should be made out to Ron Cameron or Fred Davis Jr.

NOMINATIONS DUE BY MARCH 15

TALISMAN "INTO THE WOODS", TURN 4 - What's that around the Warrior's neck?

For those of you who don't know what the Centaur's bow does: when the Centaur is in the Outer or Middle regions, he can fire his bow (instead of taking a normal encounter) at any character or stranger on the same level within 3 spaces; this is resolved as a normal combat, except (a) the Centaur cannot lose a life and (b) if the opponent is a character, that character must lose a life if he loses the combat. (Other Centaur advantages: safe in the Forest; add up to two to each movement die roll; Siren has no effect; if he meets another Centaur (as an enemy), and the character can roll the enemy's strength or higher on one die, then the enemy becomes a follower until the character's next combat)

CLARIFICATION: When describing spaces, remember that "left" and "right" are determined from *the center of the board*.

FIRST MOVE

NOTES: The Monk spent 1G to take the Mercenary as a follower (Monk has 1G left); the Wizard takes the Staff of Mastery from the Monk instead of making him lose a life as a result of their combat

CENTAUR (Tavern) - Village

MONK (V3L) spends this move getting out of the maze

WARRIOR (Ch1L) - Ch1L (*NOTE* - you can't use part of your die roll; you must move the entire distance - see rule 11.1; also, even if you could get to the City; the healer restores lives for 1G each)

WIZARD (V3L) - V1R

ENCOUNTERS: Centaur visits Mystic (no effect); Warrior gets a Talisman in Ch1L; Wizard gets 1G in V1R (now has 2G)

SECOND MOVE

CENTAUR (Village)-V3R (You can only fire your bow *after* you move)

MONK (V3L)-T2L

WARRIOR (Ch1L) - Chapel

WIZARD (V1R)-V3L

ENCOUNTERS: Centaur finds 1G in V3R (has 2G); Monk finds a Shield in T2L (whenever you lose a life in combat, roll a die; a 5 or 6 means the shield saved the life); Warrior pays 1G to restore a life (has 3L, 0G); Wizard is unaffected in the maze

CURRENT STANDINGS

CENTAUR (R Hanson): 3L, S3, C3, 2G

MONK (D Hanson): 3L, S2, C2, 1G, Potion of Strength, Shield, Mercenary Follower

WARRIOR (Pierce): 3L, S4, C3, 0G, Talisman, Water, Pixie Follower

WIZARD (Dorneman): 1L, S2, C5, 2G, 1 Spell

FACE-UP CARDS: Ch1L - Zombies (4xS2); V2R - Ghost (C4);

V1L - Cave; V3L - Maze; T2R - Gargoyle (S5) and

Enchanter; T1R - Giant (S6)

YOUR TURN 5 DICE ROLLS:

DEADLINE FOR TURN 5 IS MARCH 23. Press:

CENTAUR: How's it feel to be a pincushion, you maimed mage? And as for you, Warrior, next time you go to fight Zombies, make sure you eat your Sugar Crisp first. You know, "the crunch with punch".

Hey, Monk. Lost in the maze, huh? Too bad you didn't buy a road map. Oh well, it's time for this mobile cavalry to canter off.

WIZARD-GM: Any Pools of Life out there?

GM-WIZARD: For EVIL? Only for a price. (In the City...)

WIZARD-MONK: And what's your problem?



KREMLIN "AIN'T MISBEHAVIN", TURN 4A - That Mischif sure was active right up to the last

CURE: Karrienko and Nieweitko go into the Sanatorium. LNTC declares 6* on Talksallott.

AGING: Schukrutoff is 84; Manjak is 84; Niewitko is 75; Mischif is 78; Karrienko is 64. (Remember, aging for "?" takes place even if that character is in the sanatorium.)

PURGE: As Manjak is indisposed, Talksallott (LNTC) attempts to purge Palavrian (needs 10 or better, rolls a 3) but fails - Talksallott ages 3 to 70.

SPY INVESTIGATION: Mischif (CREEP) investigates Shootemdedsky and Schukrutoff, and closes investigations on Manjak, Mischif, and Karrienko; Mischif ages 5 to 83.

HEALTH

Schukrotoff (rolls 14) becomes 84+

Manjak (4) becomes 84++

Niewitko (18) becomes 75

Mischif (4) dies

Talksalott (17) remains at 70

Palavrian (17) remains at 70

Karrienko (19) remains at 63

Shootemdedsky (12) remains at 71

STANDINGS AT END OF TURN 4A

PARTY: Schukrotoff (B), 84+?, LNTC 5, OLM 4

KGB: Manjak (P), 84++C, CREEP 10, NEP 3

FOREIGN: Niewitko (D), 75+C, LNTC 1

DEFENSE: *** VACANT ***

IDEOLOGY: Talksallott (J), 70, LNTC 6

INDUSTRY: Palavrian (G), 70, OLM 6, CREEP 5, LNTC 4

ECONOMY: Karrienko (N), 63C, CREEP 6, EFC 5

SPORT: Shootemdedsky (H), 71?, RNM 10, OLM 9, CREEP 4, EFC 4

CANDIDATES: Doberman(L), 65; Eatstumuch (M), 64;

Nikotin (R), 59; Patina (S), 58; Strychnin (T), 57

SIBERIA: Purgemoff (F), 75; Goferbok (C), 74

KREMLIN WALL: Aparatschik (A), Krakemheds (E),

Mischif (I), Satin (O)

Remember that C indicates cure (in the sanatorium) and underlined IPs indicate the controlling faction for that character.

PLAYERS: CREEP - Anderson; EFC - Weseman; OLM - Pierce;
NEP - Carrier; RNM - Nash; LNTC - S. Cameron

DEADLINE for TURN 4B is MARCH 24. Press:

LNTC: The LNTC hereby announces the restoration of Tsarism to the Soviet Union. Henceforth, the Party Chief will be referred to as "Tsar", Comrade Schukrotoff will be referred to as "Lech I", the Soviet Union will be referred to as "Imperial Russia", and the other factions (except CREEP) will be referred to as "reactionary outlaws". Lech I predicts the onset of a Golden Age in which the Okhrana roots out and destroys all of the reactionary outlaws. Your cooperation is requested.

GM: I'll stick with "Party Chief", "Schukrotoff", and "Soviet Union", if it's OK with you - and if it isn't, for that matter.

1830 "STARLIGHT EXPRESS", TURN 7 - Two corporations hurt by sudden train recall

CORRECTIONS: First, B&O's stock marker is at B L1 (\$82), since it should have been moved to B 0 after it was bought from the Bank Pool; second, since C&O had 20% in the Bank Pool, \$22 of its dividends goes back into the corporation, so it has \$132.

STOCK ROUND

RICH HANSON buys 20% (President) of CP for \$164 (par \$82)
VINCE PRATT sells 30% NYC for \$270 and 30% C&O for \$225, and buys 20% (President) PRR for \$200 (par \$100); NYC drops to \$71 (F R1) and C&O remains at \$70 (G R2)

RICK PIERCE passes *for the entire round*, has \$60

DICK MARTIN sells 10% NYC for \$71, 10% of B&O for \$82, and 10% of PRR for \$100, and buys 20% (President) B&M for \$200 (par \$100); NYC drops to \$69 (G R1), B&O drops to \$76 (C L1), and PRR drops to \$90 (B 0)

JIM GOODE passes *for the entire round*, has \$86

RICH HANSON passes *for the remainder of the round* (Rich, a corporation can only buy a private company during the Corporation's turn in an Operations Round); has \$14

VP buys 10% PRR from pool for \$90

DM buys 10% B&M for \$100

VP buys 10% PRR for \$100

DM buys 10% NYC from stock pool and sells it right back; NYC drops to \$68 (H R1)

VP buys 10% PRR for \$100

DM buys 10% NYNH from stock pool and sells it right back; NYNH drops to \$60 (I 0)

VP buys 10% PRR for \$100 - 60% of PRR has been sold

DM buys 10% B&O from stock pool and sells it right back; B&O drops to \$71 (D L1)

VP passes *for the remainder of the round*, has \$19

DM is the only one with orders remaining; in his next three orders, he buys 10% B&M each time for a total of \$300 - 60% of B&M has been sold (DM has \$0 remaining)

All players pass - Rick Pierce has the priority deal for turn 8

OPERATIONS ROUND #1

Minor Companies: SV - RP \$5; C&SL - DM \$10; D&H - RH \$15; M&H - DM \$20; C&A - DM \$25 (B&O closed)

B&M (\$1000) lays tile 53 in E 23(W)

No trains, so no runs are made

Buy the last '3' train and the first '4' train for \$480

B&M stock drops to \$90 (A L1)

I am going to stop the game at this point. The other 1830 GMs have an "automatic stop" in their HRs whenever a new train series is first bought; while this is not necessarily always true in this game, I will stop the game whenever trains are *removed*. In this case, since a '4' train has been bought, all '2' trains are removed, leaving NYC and NYNH with no trains.

PLAYER STANDINGS at the stopping point

RP: \$65, SV, 60% (Pres) NYC, 10% C&O

DM: \$55, C&SL, M&H, C&A, 60% (Pres) B&M, 10% B&O

JG: \$86, 50% (Pres) B&O, 20% C&O

RH: \$29, D&H, 50% (Pres) NYNH, 20% (Pres) CP

VP: \$19, 20% (Pres) C&O, 60% (Pres) PRR

Bank Pool: 50% C&O, 10% B&O, 40% NYC, 50% NYNH

CORPORATION STANDINGS at the stopping point

B&M (60% sold): Par \$100, Price \$90 (A L1), treasury \$520

No trains; Token in E 23

DM 60% (Pres)

CP (20% sold): Par \$82, Price \$82 (C 0)

RP 20% (Pres)

PRR (60% sold): Par \$100, Price \$90 (B 0), treasury \$1000

No trains; Token in H 12

VP 60% (Pres)

B&O (70% sold): Par \$100, Price \$71 (D L1), treasury \$560

2 '3' trains; Token in I 15

JG 50% (Pres), DM 10%, Pool 10%

C&O (100% sold): Par \$67, Price \$70 (G R2), treasury \$132

2 '3' trains; Tokens in F 6, H 10

VP 20% (Pres), JG 20%, RP 10%, Pool 50%

NYC (100% sold): Par \$76, Price \$68 (H R1), treasury \$560

No trains; Tokens in E 19, H 16

RP 60% (Pres), Pool 40%

NYNH (100% sold): Par \$82, Price \$60 (I 0), treasury \$590

No trains; Token in G 19(N)

RH 50% (Pres), Pool 50%

DEADLINE for the rest of turn 7 is MARCH 28. Your current orders will be used unless you send in new ones.

RAILWAY RIVALS "SOUTH PACIFIC" - GAMESTART

Greg Ellis has told me that he is not interested in this game, so we will go with five players. As the rest of you wanted to start in Sacramento, two of you will be selected to start in Los Angeles.

THE SLUG AND CHARDONNAY EXPRESS (S&CE): Charles Mercer, Box 305, Forestville, CA 95436, is Red
VICTORIAN INVESTMENT CORPORATION (VIC): John Cain, 76 Banool Road, Balwyn, 3103, AUSTRALIA, is Green
GREEN RAILWAY COMPANY (GRCO): Jim Goode, 211 Maplemere, Clarksville, TN 37040-3558, is Brown
(No Name Yet #1): Scott Cameron, 4 Meadow Lane, Hicksville, NY 11801-5304, is Orange
(No Name Yet #2): Rick Pierce, 2305 Spanish Trail, Irving, TX 75060, is Black

Note that these colors are not the ones that come in my box (for example, there's no blue), but they're the ones I use on my map.

STARTING LOCATIONS: Mercer, Cain, and Goode begin in **SACRAMENTO**; Cameron and Pierce begin in **LOS ANGELES**.

ROUND 1 DIE ROLLS: 6 - 6 - 6

(no fooling, and none had to be re-rolled either)

DEADLINE FOR ROUND 1 is MARCH 24



AREA-RATED DIPLOMACY "THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA" - DELAYED

Scott Nixon has not responded to my request for his AREA Victory Claim and Code of Conduct. Also, Greg Ellis can't find his Victory Claim slips after his recent move, and Dick Martin said that he would send his in but they haven't arrived yet. If I have seven Claim slips and Codes of Conduct before the next deadline, the game start will be mailed separately before the next issue. If I don't hear from Scott, but someone else expresses interest and sends in the required forms, that player will play instead of Scott.

The next deadline is scheduled for MARCH 30

KINGMAKER "ME AND MY GAL", TURN 7 - Courtenay lives - no, he doesn't

PRE-MOVE: Edward Lancaster is executed; Cromwell begins at Tattershall

Mark Weseman claimed that Courtenay should have answered the Raid & Revolt card before the Gales - but Courtenay, being at sea, could not have answered the R&R card (see the notes for Raid & Revolt in the Event Card Key in the rules), even if he wanted to, so Courtenay went down with his ships

WHITE DUCHESS II (Ozog)

HERBERT and CLIFFORD (w21)-Hereford-h20-h21-h31-Berkeley

KNIGHTS OF THE HIGH SIERRA (Weseman)

CROMWELL (Tattershall)-Grantham-h9-h10-h11-Lynn

STANLEY (h18)-Hereford-h20-h21-h31-Berkeley

BERKELEY remains in Berkeley

Le MICHAEL is stuck in Caernarvon

KING'S COURT (Anderson)

ROOS, BEAUFORT, and PLANTAGENET LANCASTER remain in Windsor

BOURCHIER (Pleshey)-London-Windsor

Le SWAN (Dartmouth)-s15-s17-s18-Chichester

Mercer's Faction (how about a name?) (Mercer)

PERCY and HASTINGS remain in Kenilworth

PLANTAGENET YORK (Kenilworth)-h22-h32-h34-h38-Salisbury

Le ROSE (Plymouth)-s14-s16-s17-s8-Carisbrooke

YOUR TURN 8 CROWN CARD:

NOBLES: King Henry with Roos; Margaret with Bouchier; Edward Lancaster dead; King Richard with Percy; Edward March and George with Herbert; Edmund in Dublin; Richard Gloucester in Calais

TURN 8 EVENTS: PEASANT REVOLT (no effect); PARLIAMENT MAY BE SUMMONED (no effect); GALES AT SEA (no effect); STORMS AT SEA (no effect)

DEADLINE for TURN 8 is MARCH 29

DIPLOMACY "LES MISERABLES", SUMMER/FALL 1904
- Russia makes its move while Germany stands still

The A/F/R/G/T draw did not pass

SUMMER 1904 RETREATS: Russian F Nth to LON; Italian A Tus to VEN

AUSTRIA (Melinda Ann Holley, P.O. Box 2793, Huntington, WV 25727): F ALB-Gre, A Gal-VIE, A SER S A Bud,

A BUD S A Ser

ENGLAND (Steve Hughes, 110 Teanyson Road, Warwick, RI 02888): A WAL-Lon, F NAT-Nwg

FRANCE (Jim Goode, 211 Maplemere, Clarksville, TN 37040-3558): A PAR S A Bur, A BUR S GERMAN A Mun,

A PIE-Ven, F TUS-Rom, F Wes-TUN, F TYH S F Wes-Tun

GERMANY (Ed Allen, 3925 W. 188th Street, Torrance, CA 90504): NMR - has A BEL, F HOL, A KIE, F NTH, A BOH, and

A MUN

ITALY (Dave Anderson, Box 6092, Pontiac, MI 48059):

F Tun H(d/retreat to Naf, OTB), A TYO-Mun, A VEN-Rom

RUSSIA (Tom Slaughter, 1545 Northcliff Trace, Roswell, GA 30076): A UKR S A War-Gal, F NWG S GERMAN A Bel-Edi,

A War-GAL, F LON S GERMAN F Nth, F BLA S A Rum,

A RUM S TURKISH A Bul-Ser

TURKEY (Stephen Dorneman, 94 Eastern Avenue #1, Malden, MA 02148): F CON-Bul(sc), F Eas-ION, A GRE S A Bul-Ser,

F AEG S F Eas-Ion, A BUL-Ser

SUPPLY CENTER COUNT (GAINS/Losses)

AUSTRIA: Bud, Tri, Vie, Ser, Rum - 4, even

ENGLAND: Edi, Lvp, Lon - 2, even

FRANCE: Par, Bre, Mar, Spa, Por, Rom, TUN - 7, build 1

GERMANY: Kie, Ber, Mun, Bel, Hol, Den - 6, even

ITALY: Ven, Nap, Tun - 2, remove 1 or even (if retreat is OTB)

RUSSIA: Mos, Stp, Sev, War, Swe, Nwy, LON, RUM - 8, build 2

TURKEY: Con, Ank, Smy, Bul, Gre - 5, even

STANDBY: Will BRAD WILSON, P.O. Box 126, Wayne, PA 19087, submit standby orders for GERMANY?

DEADLINE for AUTUMN/WINTER 1904 and SPRING 1905 is MARCH 30. Press: (sorry, but not all of it will fit)

TURKEY-AUSTRIA: Interesting thought, assuming Don meant to type "VS." instead of "us" in your press last month. Write me with some concrete proposals.

TURKEY-FRANCE: Please ignore the above press.

ENGLAND-FRANCE: Thank you.

WORLD DIPCON II DIPCON ~~XIII~~ DIPCON ~~III~~ IECON IV

CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA

JUNE 22-24, 1990

Dipcon Committee: David Hood
Ken Peel
Tom Nash

"The 1990 International Diplomacy Championships"

NEWSLETTER #3

January 4, 1990

Welcome to the third issue of the Newsletter for DipCon/World DipCon 1990. Enclosed should also be a registration form for your convenience. If you are a zine pubber, I would appreciate any publicity you can give, including reprinting one or both of these publications.

The main purpose of the newsletter is to serve as a source of information to members of the Hobby about our event this June, as well as to facilitate communication between members of the two Committees who are working to put the thing together.

On that note, first order of business is to list everyone who will be involved in DipCon/World DipCon 1990.

DipCon Administrative Committee

David Hood, Chair and Tournament Director 15-P Estes Park Carrboro NC 27510

Tom Nash 5512 Pilgrim Road Baltimore MD 21214

Ken Peel 8708 First Ave #T2 Silver Spring MD 20910

DipCon Tournament Committee

Morgan Gurley, Co-Chair and Publicity, Local 4930 Charmapag Ave Charlotte NC 28211

Dave McCrumb, Co-Chair and Variant Events Director Rt 1 Box 10 Shawsboro VA 24162

Randy Grigsby, Publicity, Canada 93 St Vincent St RR#3 Barrie Ont L4M 4S5

Ron Cameron, Publicity, West Coast 7821 Bouma Cir La Palma CA 90623

Simon Billenness, Overseas Publicity Coordinator 388 Richmond Ter #5L Staten Island NY 10301

John Cain, Australia and New Zealand 76 Banool Rd Balwyn 3103

Peter Sullivan, United Kingdom 27 Farrar St Darlington DL3 6RG

Per Westling, Scandinavia Rydsv. 246 c:16 S-582 51 LINKOPING SWEDEN

Bob Odcar, Publicity, Electronic Mail 901 Park Ridge Rd #B6 Durham NC 27713

Michael Lowrey, Asst. Tour. Dir., Scoring 1131-205 Park Ridge Ln Raleigh NC 27605

Robert Sacks, Special Advisor to the Chairman 4861 Broadway 5-V New York NY 10034

Eric Klien and Tom Nash will also be doing publicity on the E-Mail networks, for Portal and CompuServe, respectively. In addition, Jef Bryant (121 Rue Jean Pauly 4300 ANS BELGIUM) will serve as the Francophone contact. Any other gaps we have concerning the various national hobbies should be taken care of once Larry Peery's worldwide Dipinfo service gets going later in January.

Con Details. The Con will be held June 22-24, 1990 at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. There will be four rounds of Diplomacy, of which one must play two to become eligible for awards. During the Saturday morning round, the individual scores will also be tabulated by seven-man team for the team competition. Teams are already beginning to be organized in Canada and California, and I hope other places as well. This will add even more enjoyment to the tournament, not to mention more bodies to the Con. There will also be tournaments for variants, Gunboat, and Railway Rivals. There will also be a Diplomacy Geography Exam to be written by 1989 DipCon champ Edi Biran that will focus on the Diplomacy map and the real-life places represented. Fees are \$20 entry, \$15 per night housing.

Certificates will be awarded for the subsidiary tournaments and for places 4-7, but plaques will be awarded to the top three places in the tourney. Edi Biran has donated plaques for the

seven Best Country awards, as well as two other coveted DipCon awards - the "Hammered" trophy and the "Golden Blade" award, for excellence in being stabbed and stabbing, respectively. There will also be certificates awarded to players in games who stick it out in bad positions ("Death With Dignity" awards) similar to those awarded at the 1986 DipCon in Fredrickaburg.

Avalon Hill Game Company will also be donating prizes for the various competitions. Although the final package has yet to be decided upon it will likely include games, merchandise certificates and free subscriptions to their gaming magazine The General. Games donated by other parties for use as prizes so far include BATTLE FOR ITALY, VENTURE, and GUNSLINGER, all Avalon Hill titles.

Tournament Schedule. The first Diplomacy round will begin on Friday, June 22 at 5:00 p.m. Also beginning Friday night will be the Gunboat tourney (which will continue on an as-needed basis throughout World DipCon) as well as the Railway Rivalry competition. Saturday morning will see the second DipRound, which will also double as the team competition. Consters not into 9:00 am Diplomacy can instead play in a Titan tournament to be held concurrently. After an early dinner the third Dipround will begin at 6:00 p.m., as will the Diplomacy variant tournament, which will feature a 5 or 6-player variant. Finally, Sunday morning at 9:30 will be the fourth Dipround as well as the starting time for the Civilization tournament. Awards would be given out and the tournament brought to a close around 5:00 or 6:00, depending upon the completion time of Round 4 games. This schedule allows alternatives for any participant who wants to savor Diplomacy (God have mercy on his hapless soul...)

Scoring System. Not a whole lot of comment so far about the CAD scoring system outlined in the last newsletter, but what we have received has been mostly negative. Should we use a simple win/draw system like was used at the 1987 DipCon in Wleconain? Below is a prototype for such a system - send us comments and suggestions!

Win-10, 2way-5, 3way-3, 4way-2, 5way-1, 6 or 7way-0, plus .1 for each supply center.

InterCon. Don't forget about Jason Bergmann's house Con to be held during the week between World DipCon and the Origins Con in Atlanta. There will be lots of gaming there, or you can just use his house as a home base as you tour the Atlanta area. Also don't forget that he can carry up to three people with him to Chapel Hill from Atlanta (and back) so some Consters may want to fly directly into Atlanta from overseas and carpool with Jason. Get in touch with him at Box 23780 Atlanta GA 30322.

Travel. Unless one is coming from overseas, you can probably get a direct flight into Raleigh-Durham from any major city. Alternatively, you can fly into Charlotte and carpool with Morgan Gurley and his ilk (address on other side). Internationals should contact me or Simon Billenness about your travel plans. There will also be carpool possibilities for many hobbyists. Mike Gonsalves (1401 Haven Rd #T-6 Hagerstown MD 21740) will be driving his van and can pick up people through MD/DC/VA. I will announce other rides as I hear about them.

Internationals. Get in touch with the DipCon representative for your area to coordinate travel plans, registration fees, etc. We look to have a truly international Con given the tremendous interest already shown abroad. Pete Sullivan promises two teams from Britain alone, and has begun publishing his own newsletter Globetrotter to help promote World DipCon in the UK.

Housing. For those who don't want to stay in our air-conditioned dorm rooms, I will print a list of nearby hotels in DN#4.

Publications. There will be a Con booklet ready before the Con, including directions, schedules, etc. and there may also be a souvenir booklet afterwards. If I get written bid proposals for DipCon 1991 I will include them in the Con booklet. There will definitely be a zine table where pubbers can hawk copies of their zines to Consters - several pubbers have already said they will send samples, and the Aussrellans will be bringing a bunch of their zines with them.

Variants. Dave McCrumb is now deciding on the variant to be played during the Saturday night tourney. It will likely be a 5 or 6 player game. Send suggestions to him. If anyone is interested in helping him run the variant tournaments, let him know.

Participants. Here is an update on likely attendees for the Con: (US) Mohn Cho, Tim Moore, James Wall, Lance Anderson, Phil Reynolds, Don Del Grande, Mark Law, Rex Martin, Steve Cooley, Marc Peters, Jason Bergmann, Edi Birsan, Vince Lutterble, Cathy Ozog, Ron Spitzer, Larry Peary, John Crosby, Mark Stegeman, Gary Behnen, and all the members of the Tournament Committees except Robert Secks, (UK) Richard Walkerdine, Pete Sullivan, Iain Bowen, Rich Baas, Matt McVeigh, Ken Simpson, Dane Moslen, Derek Wilson, Jan Niechwiadowicz, (AUSTRALIA) John Cain, Andrew England, Mike Gibson, (CANADA) Francois Cuerrier, Cal White, Doug Acheson, (SWEDEN) Per Westling. This, of course, doesn't count the normal DixieCon crowd heavily represented by the Carolina Amateur Diplomats.

Next Newsletter: Expect it by March 1.

-DAVID HOOD
CHAIR

DON DEL GRANDE
142 ELISEO DR
GREENBRAE, CA 94904-1339



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Black Heritage USA

DIPLOMACY WORLD NEWS
Larry Peery
P.O. Box 8416
San Diego, CA 92102

